

**METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING COUPONS AND
THE LIKE IN CIGARETTE PACKING MACHINES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 Succesive lowermost coupons of a stack in a
2 magazine are withdrawn by suction heads borne by a
3 turnable suction wheel and a pivotable arm to be advanced
4 along one or more arcuate first guides into a second
5 guide which directs the coupons to predetermined
6 positions beneath discrete U-shaped collars of the type
7 forming part of so-called hinged lid packs for
8 confinement of plain or filter cigarettes or other
9 smokers' products. A coupon which has assumed such pre-
10 determined position is thereupon expelled from the second
11 guide and is confined, together with the collar and the
12 pack, in an outer envelope of cardboard or the like. An
13 advantage of the method and apparatus is that the collar
14 need not be lifted during advancement of a coupon to its
15 predetermined position to thus reduce the likelihood of
16 misalignment of the collar and the coupon relative to
17 each other preparatory to and during their confinement
18 in the outer envelope of the ultimate product.